

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of facilitating regeneration, growth and/or development of a central nervous system in ~~an animal or bird~~ a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal a genetic molecule to increase ~~increasing elevating or otherwise enhancing~~ the levels of a ~~Eph~~ EphA4 receptor ~~or its functional equivalent or a ligand thereof~~ in cells occupying a region surrounding the spinal cord.
2. (withdrawn) A method of regulating axon guidance in an animal or bird said method comprising increasing, elevating or otherwise enhancing the levels of an Eph receptor or its functional equivalent or a ligand thereof.
3. (withdrawn) A method for facilitating the repair or replacement of axons or otherwise facilitating repair of nervous tissue in animal or bird, said method comprising increasing, elevating or otherwise enhancing the levels of an Eph receptors or its functional equivalent in a region surrounding the cortex and/or inhibiting, reducing or otherwise down-regulating expression of the Eph receptor or its functional equivalent when expressed in tissues outside said region surrounding the cortex and which expression leads to blockage of axonal growth.
4. (canceled).
5. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim ~~[[4]]~~ 1 wherein the mammal is a human.
6. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 or 3 in response to claim 1 following~~ disease or trauma.
7. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 6 wherein the disease or trauma is brain or spinal cord injury or disease of the upper motor neuron.
8. -13. (canceled)
14. (withdrawn) A genetically modified animal producing reduced levels of an Eph receptor or ligand thereof or their functional equivalents.

15. (withdrawn) A genetically modified animal producing elevated levels of an Eph receptor or ligand thereof or their functional equivalents.

16. (withdrawn) A genetically modified animal according to claim 14 or 15 wherein the Eph receptor is EphA4 or its functional equivalent.

17. (withdrawn) A genetically modified animal according to claim 14 or 15 wherein the animal is a murine species.

18. (withdrawn) A composition useful in facilitating regeneration, growth and/or development of a control nervous system or regulating axon guidance or facilitating repair or replacement of axons or repair of nervous tissue said composition comprising an Eph receptor or ligand or a functional equivalent thereof and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents.

19. (withdrawn) A composition according to claim 18 wherein the Eph receptor is EphA4.

20. (withdrawn) A composition according to claim 18 wherein the ligand is an ephrin.

21. (canceled).